

C&C: Learning the Will of God for you Life in the Bible

Connections and Comparisons is an ongoing weekly series that deals with many scriptures in the Bible, some of which are not commonly addressed. The purpose of this series is to examine the scriptures at hand comparing what is said and looking at the connections within.

Hebrews 11:1-6

1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

2 For by it the elders obtained a good report.

3 **Through faith** we understand that the worlds were framed by **the word of God**, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

4 **By faith** Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.

5 **By faith** Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

When we come to God and ask for help in prayer we must first remember that “faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen” and “without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.” If we do not have faith that God will hear us or if we don’t believe that there even is a God this is not pleasing to God!

Phiippiansl 4:4-9

4 Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, **Rejoice.**

5 Let your **moderation** be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.

6 **Be careful for nothing;** but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

7 **And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding,** shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

8 **Finally,** brethren, **whatsoever things are true,** whatsoever things are **honest,** whatsoever things are **just,** whatsoever things are **pure,** whatsoever things are **lovely,** whatsoever things are of **good report;** if there be any **virtue,** and if there be any **praise,** think on these things.

9 Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, **do: and the God of peace shall be with you.**

God desires for us to be continually rejoicing and not to be anxious over anything, but rather every thing by prayer with thanksgiving. After making your petition known to God the peace of God will keep your hearts and minds through Jesus Christ.

Matthew 6:5-8

5 And when thou prayest, **thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are:** for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, **that they may be seen of men.** Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.

6 But thou, when thou prayest, **enter into thy closet,** and when thou hast **shut thy door,** pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which **seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.**

7 But when ye pray, **use not vain repetitions,** as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.

8 Be not ye therefore like unto them: for **your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.**

This passage of scripture does not eliminate the need for the body of Christian believers to come together for corporate prayer as this is also seen in scripture and is also important to partake of as well.

So to put this into perspective you desire God's will in your life and are seeking His direction. Here we see that when you come to God you must first exercise faith that you believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him. You are then instructed to not be anxious when praying but every thing in prayer and thanksgiving letting your requests be known unto God. And not to pray in repetitions. This also will take away your stress as you are seeking God's will and trusting in Him for it.

On the other hand it is perfectly ok to think out a plan, for example saying I would like to go to college and I plan to complete it. Etc. You are making a plan. But before you make any plans the scriptures say for us to do this:

James 4:13-15

13 Go to now, ye that say, To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain:

14 **Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow.** For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, **and then vanisheth away.**

15 **For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that.**

Do you see how that works with what I said above with the scriptures and for your overall plan? This way you have made a plan but have said if the Lord will I will do this. So then you have prayed and asked according to His will recognizing that plans can change and God's will for you will be shown to you as you follow Him seeking that direction. Here is how you do that.

Matthew 6:28-34

28 And **why** take ye thought for raiment? **Consider the lilies** of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin:

29 And yet I say unto you, **That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.**

30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, **shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?**

31 Therefore take no thought, saying, **What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?**

32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) **for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.**

33 **But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.**

34 **Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.**

God knows what you have need of. Sometimes we think it is a need that we are seeking from the Lord and yet in reality it is actually only a desire that we ourselves want. Think about how Jesus said that the lilies of the field and the grass of the field are clothed by God and that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these lilies.

When you are seeking direction from God you must also be following the direction God has already given to you in His Word. Your first priority here is to seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness. The rest will be added to you. So you decide to make a plan for college but then you ask God if it's according to your will I would like to do this. And then you put your faith in God while you pursue His Word. Because God has revealed His will in His Word.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

16 Rejoice evermore.

17 Pray without ceasing.

18 In every thing give thanks: **for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.**

1 Thessalonians 4:1-8

1 Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us **how ye ought to walk and to please God**, so ye would abound more and more.

2 For ye know what commandments we gave you by the Lord Jesus.

3 **For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication:**

4 **That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour;**

5 Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God:

6 That no man go beyond and defraud his brother in any matter: **because that the Lord is the avenger of all such**, as we also have forewarned you and testified.

7 For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, **but unto holiness.**

8 He therefore that despiseth, **despiseth not man, but God**, who hath also given unto us his holy Spirit.

As you read through the Bible you will see God's will for your life all throughout both the New Testament we are living under today and also the Old Testament which was written for our learning. So, when you are seeking direction from God you must also be following the direction God has already given to you in His Word.

2 Timothy 2:15-16

15 **Study to shew thyself approved unto God**, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, **rightly dividing the word of truth.**

16 But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness.

See how this works with first seeking the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and the rest will be added unto you? You first had faith in God and sought His direction. You then make a plan that I would like to go to college Lord if it be your will. You then study the Word of God while applying God's will in your life of which we saw that God desires us to be rejoicing evermore, praying without ceasing (meaning keeping a close communication with the Lord where He is always on your heart), and in everything giving thanks. This we are told IS THE WILL OF GOD as well as to KNOW HOW TO KEEP OURSELVES in sanctification and honor and to study the Word of God to show ourselves approved unto God. This is the direction for ALL CHRISTIANS!

So this is what you are to be doing. As for the college and other things you desire in life remember to always ask according to the Lord's will and continue to grow in Christ and seeking after the Kingdom of God and His righteousness always. Because plans can change. And we can not do things by our own power or might or because we will it to happen. That would not be the correct way.

Zechariah 4:6

6 Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, **Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.**

Romans 9:16

16 So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy.

We as the children of God seeking His will most also continue to have faith as we learned at the beginning of the lesson.

Romans 14:22-23

22 Hast thou faith? have it to thyself before God. Happy is he that condemneth not himself in that thing which he alloweth.

23 And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, because he eateth not of faith: for whatsoever is not of faith is sin.

Take careful notice that "whatsoever is not of faith is sin." In the Gospel of Luke the parallel passage of scriptures concerning the lilies in the field and seeking after the kingdom of God we are also told not to be of a doubtful mind.

Luke 12:29-34

29 And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, **neither be ye of doubtful mind.**

30 For all these things do the nations of the world seek after: and **your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things.**

31 **But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you.**

32 **Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.**

33 Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, **a treasure in the heavens that faileth not, where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth.**

34 **For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.**

You hear God through learning His Word and knowing what it says. This doesn't mean God won't speak to you nor do I mean that you will not be led of God by His own way of teaching you. But you do not put your faith in your heart you put your faith in the Word of God because our hearts can't be trusted.

Psalms 37:23-25

23 The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way.

24 Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the LORD upholdeth him with his hand.

25 I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.

Jeremiah 17:7-10

7 Blessed is the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is.

8 For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit.

9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

10 I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.

As you can see, the heart can not be trusted. We must live our lives according to what the Word of God teaches us and this will lead us to also find the will of God for our lives.